

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS:

The attached sheets of drawings include changes to FIGs. 3, 6a, 11a, and 16. In FIG. 3, previously omitted elements 208a and 208b have been added. In FIG. 6a, previously omitted elements 509, 511, 519, and 521 have been added. In FIG. 11a, element 1009 has been deleted. In FIG. 16, element 1510b has been replaced with element 1510.

Attachments: Replacement sheets of drawings

Annotated sheets of drawings showing changes.

REMARKS

Applicant has corrected those drawings the Examiner has objected to and now believes all reference numbers in the description are properly identified in the drawings. Further, it is respectfully submitted that the changes that have been made to the claims remove all basis for rejection.

First, with respect to the double patenting rejection, it is respectfully submitted that the claims have been amended in a manner to recite features that are not in the co-pending application No. 10/121,628. Accordingly, there is no conflict in the claims of the two applications, and there is no basis for maintaining a double patenting rejection.

The claims were also rejected initially on the basis of U.S. Patent No. 5,882,046 to Thomas. The claims have now been amended to call for an intermediate layer between the mating corrugations and a coating of lubricant between the mating corrugations, neither of which is remotely suggested by the Thomas patent. Accordingly, the independent claims 1 and 10 as amended are distinguishable from anything that is taught or suggested by the Thomas patent or any other known prior art.

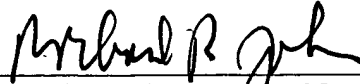
For the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims are allowable and that this application is now in full condition for allowance. A formal notice to that effect is respectfully requested in due course. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference will in any way expedite the handling of this case, he is invited to contact the undersigned at his convenience.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge/credit any fees that may be required to
Deposit Account No. 11-0160.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: _____

2-2-06



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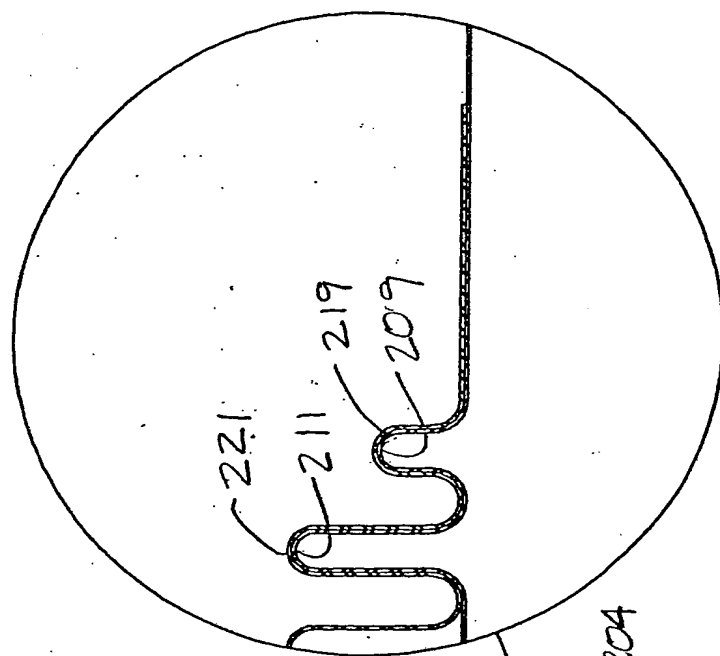


FIG. 3a

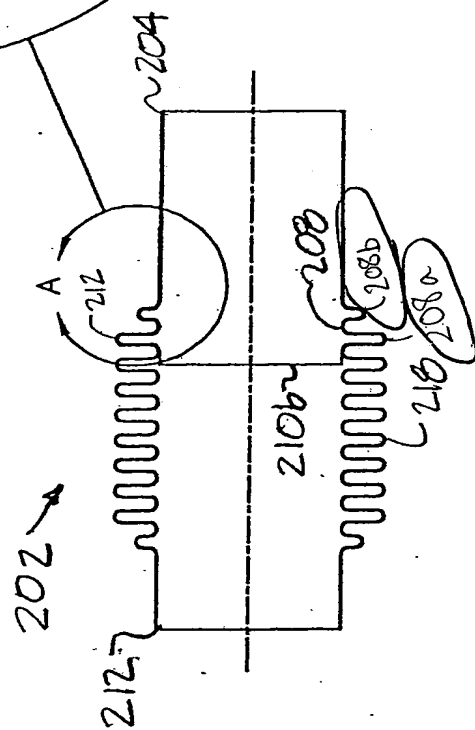


FIG. 3

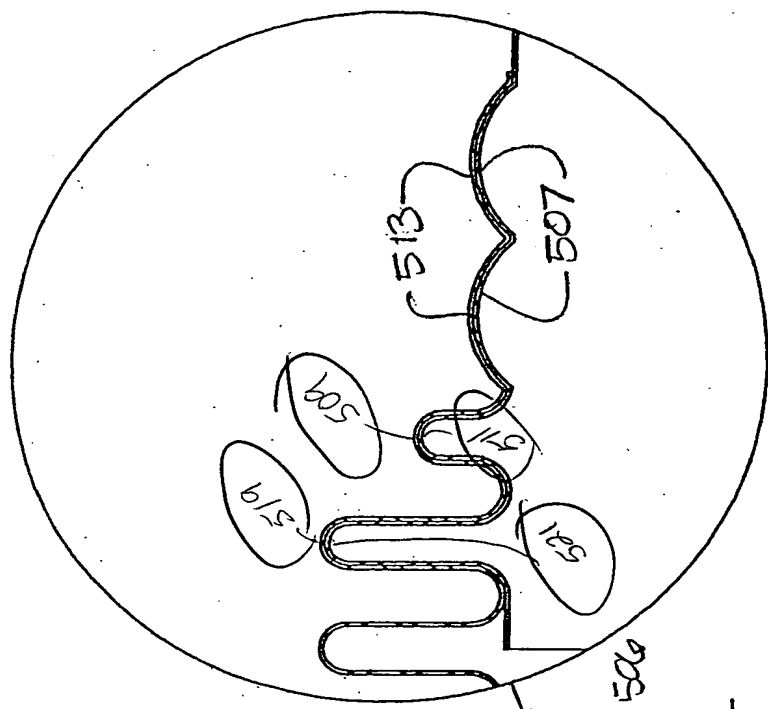


FIG. 6a

502

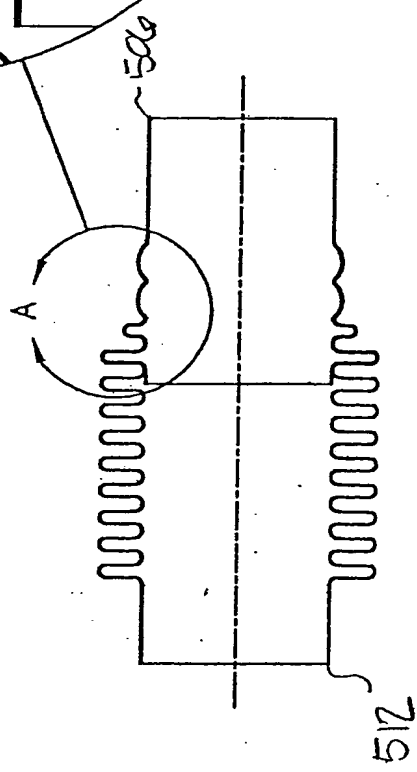


FIG. 6

1002

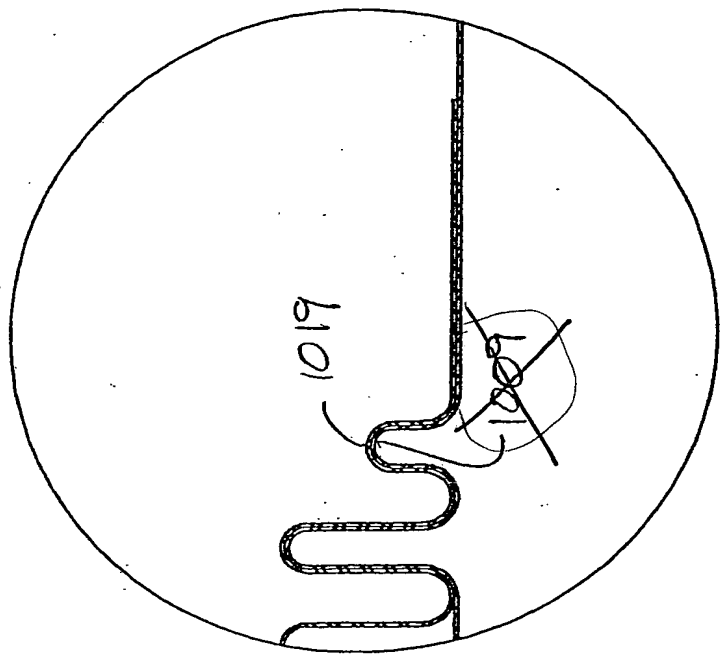
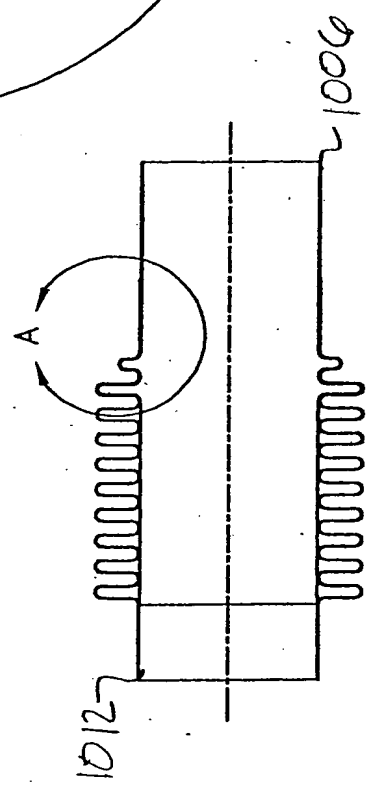


FIG. 11a

FIG. 11

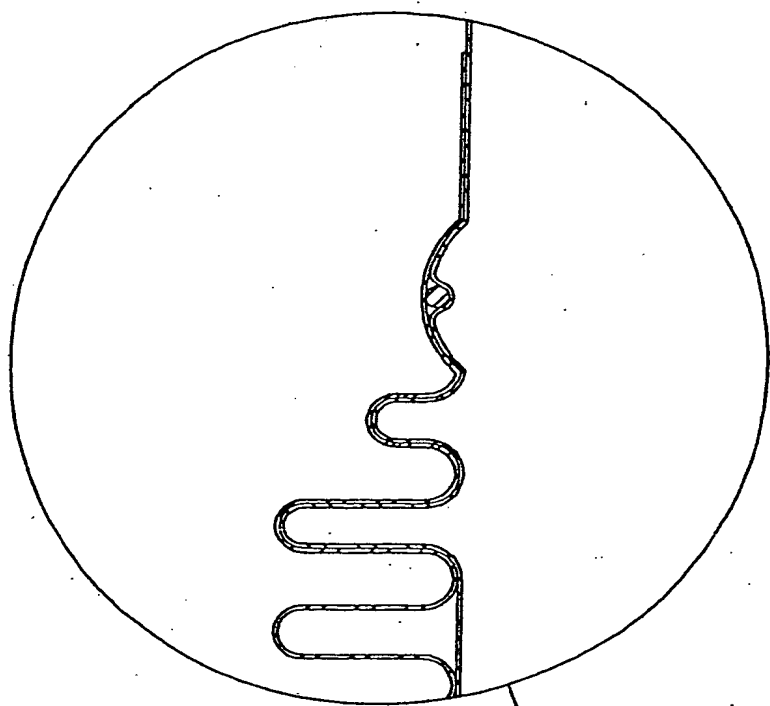


FIG. 16a

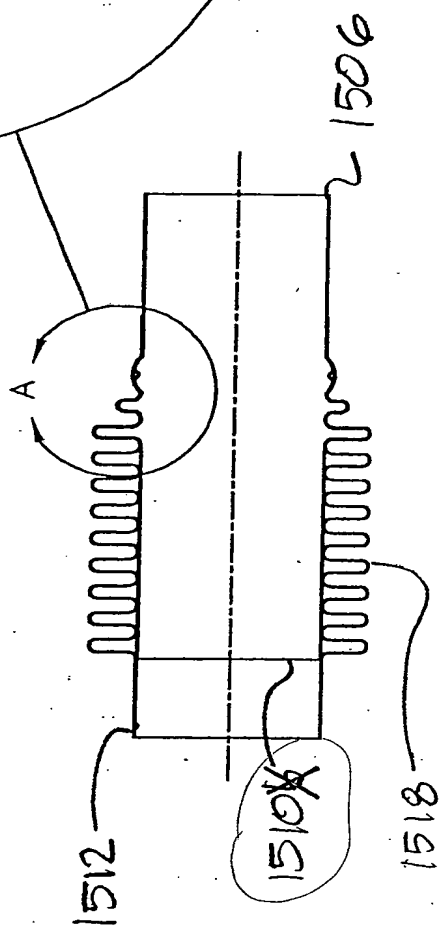
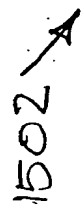


FIG. 16